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An Exclusive Interview with
NANCY CARTWRIGHT



SPOOK THE TOWN!
BART AND LISA'S
WITCHING HOUR!



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MAKING SCIENCE
WORK FOR YOU!



HANG THIS CLOWN!
GIANT PULLOUT
KRUSTY PINUP!



\$2.50 FALL 1992

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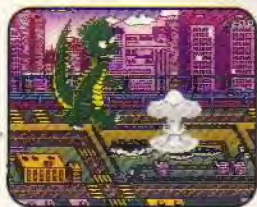


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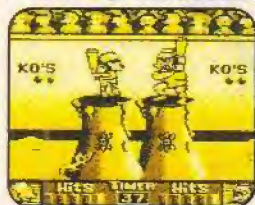
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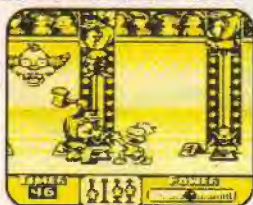
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More compelling than
counting sheep.

IN THE NEWS

OUR MOTTO: "TRUTH IS WEIRDER THAN FICTION"



THE FRONT PAGE

Lots of surprises, **weird plot twists**, and prestigious stars are due this season on *The Simpsons*. Here are just a few hints and secrets to whet your ravenous little appetites.

When Bart gets his dream vacation at Kamp Krusty in the show's season opener, the clown-approved summer camp turns out to be **Bart's worst nightmare**... For one thing, the camp counselors are none other than Dolf, Jimbo, and Kearney, those juvenile delinquents who once inspired

TOM JONES

Bart to **saw off the head of the statue** of Jebediah Springfield... As Dolf says to Bart: "Shut up and eat your pine cone."

In another episode, Marge, Ned Flanders, Apu, and Police Chief Wiggum make their singing stage debuts at the Springfield Community Arts Center, under the petulant direction of theatrical genius Uwelllyn Sinclair (played by Jon Lovitz). Meanwhile, poor little Maggie is enrolled in the Ayn Rand School for Tots, where Sinclair's sister (also played by Lovitz) is the **pacifier-confiscating** headmistress...

ADAM WEST

In other shows: Lisa meets Bob Hope... Homer's agitated half-brother Herb Powell (Danny DeVito) returns... "Itchy & Scratchy: The Movie" comes to Springfield... **Zombies**, a psychotic Krusty the Clown doll, and a gigantic Homer are featured in "Treehouse of Horror III," the annual *Simpsons* Halloween special... Tom Jones croons to Marge... **Bart falls in love**... Homer makes a TV commercial... Bart and Lisa meet Adam West... Leonard Nimoy comes to town... and... **hold onto your hats** for this one... Maggie finally talks!

BOB HOPE

FROM HAIR TO ETERNITY

A recent article by Steve Dollar in the *Kalamazoo Gazette* attempts to show the influence of punk rock in today's world and singles out Bart Simpson as one exemplar of the punk ethos, citing his hair and attitude. Dollar may have a point. He quotes Jon Savage, author of the recent book on punk's emergence: *England's Dreaming: Anarchy, Sex Pistols, Punk Rock, and Beyond*. "In America, you can point to traces of punk in phenomena (such) as *The Simpsons*; Matt Groening started cartooning in the period." But in focusing on Bart and punk, Dollar is overlooking the Simpsons' many other musical influences.

An examination of the hairstyles of the rest of the family reveals the rich and varied musical melange that enlivens every *Simpsons* episode. When looking at Homer, who could dispute the influence of the music of Phil Collins or Yul Brynner's acclaimed performance in *Rodgers and Hammerstein's The King and I*; the towering influence of the 60's girl groups and their beehive hairdos is self-evident in Marge Simpson; while Lisa's hair is reminiscent of the Busby Berkeley musicals of the thirties. Of course,



Dan Castelleneta

Dan Castelleneta, the voice of Homer Simpson, encountered this mysterious ancient petroglyph on the black sand beaches of the isle of Hawaii.

any mention of music and the Simpsons would be incomplete without a nod to their biggest influence: The Beatles' *Yellow Submarine*.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF YOUR INVESTMENT

On May 18 Sheila Kast of ABC's *World News This Morning* reported Bart Simpson and Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady as among those who came out to celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of the New York Stock Exchange. When asked for his assessment of current economic trends, the poor, overheated sucker inside the Bart costume refused to comment.

CELLULOID DREAMS

BY D.K. UPSHAW



© 20th CENTURY FOX

Reprinted from The Comics Buyer's Guide

THE CHECK IS IN THE MAIL, VINCE

Vince Leo of the Minneapolis *City Page* singled out *Simpsons Illustrated* in a review, praising its "unique news briefs, fabulous features, hilarious activities pages and reader participation." Wrote Leo: "Every page has a different visual hook, but the design is so seamless it looks like the magazine puts itself together." (If only it did, Vince. If only it did.)

BOFFO BARTO SENDS CULKIN SULKIN'

In an article on the careers of Hollywood's child actors, the June 22nd issue of *Daily Variety* proclaimed Bart Simpson

immaculately turned out in pearls as (she) does the dusting... always waiting at the door to greet hubby... she must brave Homer's cement-headed antics—and raise bratty Bart, to boot." According to Jones, Marge sends us a clear message "that the work (wives) do is undervalued and not important. They derive their real identity from their husbands."

Yet Mike Duffy of the *Detroit News and Free Press* on the occasion of Mother's Day writes a paean to Marge. Citing a paper by Jan Loveland, a graduate student at Wayne State University, entitled "Post-



55 Kamen

The Rock Bottom Reminders, from left to right: Stephen King, Michael Dorris, Barbara Kingsolver, Robert Fulghum, Roy Blount, Jr., Joel Selvin, Dave Marsh, Greil Marcus, and Matt Groening.

some or all of these may have merit, clearly her most towering achievement is her hair.

MUSIC OF THE SPHERES IN THE EARS OF CONVENTIONEERS

Amy Tan, Stephen King, Robert Fulghum, and our own Matt Groening were among the best-selling authors comprising the 16-member Rock Bottom Reminders. In conjunction with the American Booksellers Association convention, this rock & roll band took the stage at the Cowboy Boogie bar in Anaheim, California on May 25th. They played two shows to enthusiastic screaming conventioners to raise money for literacy causes, and having only rehearsed once before, what they lacked in musicianship they made up for in sheer ear-splitting volume.

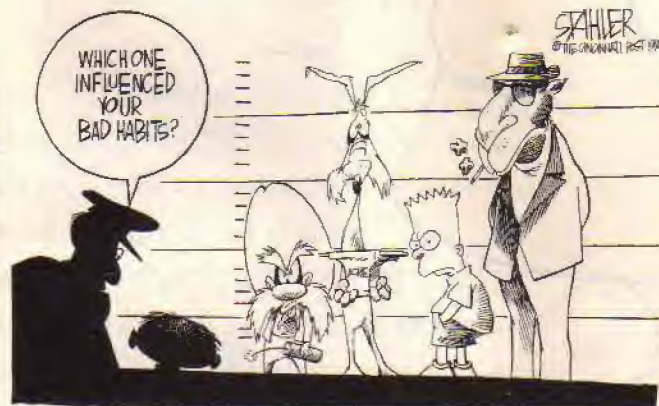
With the yodelling portion of the show cut out, Groening, modest as ever, chose to forego any other lead singing duties, supplying hearty back-

up modalities stage left. And with the astonishing effect Groening's voice has been known to have on the human ear, perhaps it was all for the best.

YEAR OF THE SIMPSON?

Even before we went to press with this issue and our "Bart for President" campaign (see page 34), the press was already jumping on the Simpson bandwagon...but in support of a different member of the family. In their syndicated column of June 13th, Jeff Cohen and Norman Solomon say they want to see Homer take the oath of office next January, calling him the candidate who "best understands the suffering of America's middle class."

But what about the potential for political embarrassment caused by Bart's well-publicized escapades? Cohen and Solomon aren't worried. "At least he's never been implicated in the savings and loan scandal...unlike a current first son."



number one. "Some would argue that Macaulay Culkin is the biggest child star working now," wrote Timothy Gray, "but arguably even bigger is the animated Bart Simpson...." When asked to comment, Simpson graciously replied, "I may be bigger than Macaulay now, but he's still young and has a lot of time to grow. I don't think that's really an option for me."

MARGE SIMPSON: CULTURAL ICON?

In the past, Bart and Homer seemed to have drawn the lion's share of attention, but recently Marge has been logging in a lot of media time. From the *Toronto Sun* to the *Detroit News and Free Press* to the *New Republic*, Marge has become a focal point for one thesis after another. But which is the real Marge?

Rosemary Jones of the *Toronto Sun* said she deserves our pity: "meek, mild, devoted,

modern Motherhood: Female Anger, Moral Authority and Marge Simpson's Towering Achievements" Duffy claimed Marge is more than just a sitcom mom; she is active in social issues, such as violence in cartoons and destroying the political career of the evil capitalist J. Montgomery Burns. "Moral authority in *The Simpsons* belongs to the women," Loveland wrote. It would seem Marge deserves not our pity but our admiration.

In an article for *The New Republic*, Tad Friend suggested that Marge Simpson exemplifies certain "middlebrow" values that once made this nation healthy and strong and could do so again, should we follow her lead. Marge Simpson: Savior of America?

So what comprises the Towering Achievement of Marge Simpson? Her fine housekeeping? Her moral rectitude? Or her capacity for leadership? While



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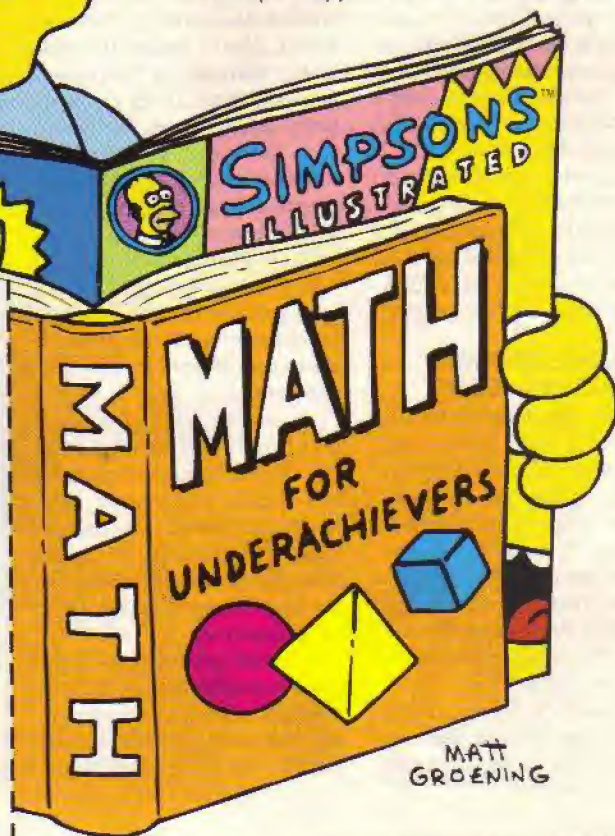
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JUNK



MAIL

c/o SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED, WELSH PUBLISHING GROUP, 300 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10017

What's your favorite thing in this issue? Is there something in it that you really hate? Is there anything that's *not* in it that you think should be? Write to us and let us know—we love hearing from you. Send your mail and pictures to: *Junk Mail*, Welsh Publishing Group, 300 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10017. Please write on them, "For consideration for publication in *Simpsons Illustrated*. I agree if you publish my submission it becomes your property" and sign 'em. Thanks!

Dudes, Sea Turtles, and Various Types of Waterfowl (like Opus):

Just read my first issue of S.I. and I almost peed my pants. My giant sea turtle Harvey enjoyed it immensely. He said "Gronk!" (That's what he always says, but I think he meant it in this instance.) I think it was very maliferous and olid, but in a benevolent way. KILL, KILL, KILL!!! Sorry, my supressed demon possesor got out-of-hand. Can't stop him without plastic gloves or some blue tortilla chips. Well, anyway, the magazine is as good as it is handy for beating off deadly goldfish. I think I might subscribe.

Oh! Tell Marge that she left one of her pearl necklaces

at my house after one of our trysts. Keep up the cheesy, fire-retardent fun. You'd better print this or I'll kill the sea turtle.

Love,

Josua "But you can call me Daisy" Olson
Traverse City, MI

P.S. I'm only two years old; my sea turtle helped me with the big words (all words bigger than S. I.).

Love,

Josua "Did I eat your dog, oh, sorry, I thought it was a pony" Olson

P. S. again—I forgot.

P.S. again—I remem-bered, inter-

view that master voice man who does all those *Simpsons* episodes, Phil Hartman.

Thanx,

Josua "I'm a man, yes I am, and I can't help but love you so" Olson

Dear *Simpsons Illustrated*,
Please put "The School Survival Handbook" back in your mag. I really liked collecting them. My friend wants you to put it back in, also.

So put it back in or suffer

the consequences!

—Mitchell Pond
Brecksville, OH

Check out page 41 before you do anything we'll both regret, Mitch.

Dear Ed.,

I have been a *Simpsons* Fan since they were made. My favorite is Lisa. But I have a problem. I want to subscribe to *Simpsons Illustrated*, but my Mom says you should get seven issues for \$10.00. She thinks five is ridiculous. What should I do?

—Heather Cline
Florissant, MO

Try trading her in for a more advanced model.

Dear Editor,

I like your posters and your funny pictures about Marge. I also like Arnold. I don't like "Top 40."

Your friend,

Bryan King Jr.
Burnham, ME

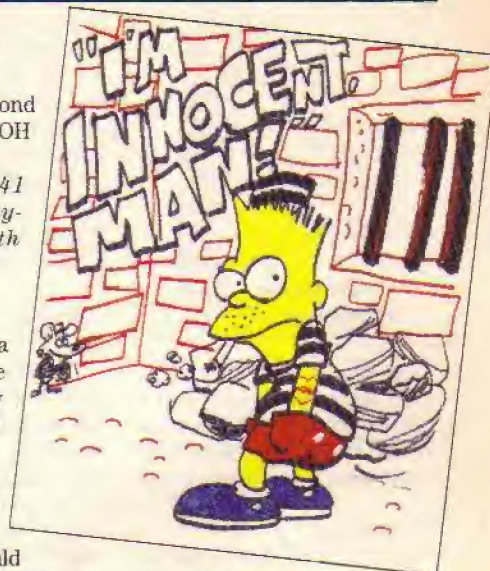
Dear *Simpson* Crazy,

I think of the *Simpsons* as people I can't live without! I have a question, though. Why don't you devote a whole magazine to *Simpsons* comics? Why don't you give each of the *Simpson* characters their own magazine for a year? One more question: How long will this magazine go on for?

Yours truly,

Matt Galligan
Manchester, CT

We hope it'll continue at least until our limo is paid for.



John Holdsworth,
Philadelphia, PA

Dear Mr. Groening,

I'm not going to kiss up, but I love *The Simpsons* and S.I. In your Winter 1992 issue, what exactly are we supposed to look for in the spaghetti on page 3? Also, on pages 38 and 31, you cheated! All of the singing students have a twin! Except all of them have different coloring.

—Amanda
Wright
Newman, CA

We weren't cheating, Amanda. Those kids had just come from science class, where there was a freak accident during a cloning experiment. As for the spaghetti, you tell us!



Christopher Talbot,
Alexandria, VA



Cory Clay, Excelsior, MN

of your magazine is not Simpsons-related, but just funny! I have used some of your pranks in the back, and they turned out to be funny. At school, we modified the "Synchronized Pencil Drop" and dropped our books on the floor every hour on the hour. (Books are louder.) Here is a joke for you:

A: "D'oh! A deer!" ("Doe, A Deer" from the *The Sound of Music*)

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THE ALLOGICAL GENERATION

ENEMIES

- MUSTY GLOBULARS
- HATH BUT-GONES
- COWTOR

OFFICIAL PATCH

1ST YEAR MISSION

2ND YEAR MISSION

CHARACTERS:

- MARGE SIMPSON:** "I SUPPOSE I'M THE DR. LARGE"
- BART SIMPSON:** "I'M THE HONORABLE ADULTING!"
- LISA SIMPSON:** "I'M ADM. BARTNESS!"
- MAGGIE SIMPSON:** "I'M CPT. BOUGHAN. I MEAN HOMER!"

UFO: SPRINGFIELD

Other text: "WHO AM I?!"

I would like to ask you a few questions: Who draws the pictures? Who writes the articles? Thank you very much.

Dear Editor,

Ever since I got my magazine of the Simpsons, my dad has been saying I'm a baby. He says that it's only for young kids. I'm eleven; do you think I'm too old for this magazine? I also think that there's only one little problem: there's too much boring stuff and too few comics. But anyway, I like your magazines, books, and activities. I hope you can put more activities in your magazine.

**William Y
Norcross**

fan of Matt Groening's work since I discovered his "Life in

Hel" strip in Detroit's *Metro Times* many years ago. My friends and I loved those "little cartoons before the commercials" on *The Tracey Ullman Show* and were pleased to notice that they were Matt Groening's work.

(That reminds me . . . Fox should air a special or two called "The Lost Simpsons" in which they compile the short cartoons. Old Simpson enjoy recalling the Simpsons, and newer Simpson enjoy discovering ts.)

Regarding the enclosed picture, I had decided to go as a Simpson last Halloween, but ruled out Bart as too obvious. So, after some careful observation and planning and the fortunate discovery of a dress in a second-hand shop that was just the right color (but not strapless, sorry), I set to work. Marge's hairpiece consisted of a conehead cap, foam rubber formed into a cylinder, several feet of duct tape for stability, and a few yards of cheap feather boas wrapped turban-style and secured with two-sided tape. Needless to

say, my friends were quite impressed.

Sincerely,
Chuck Schulkins
Toledo, OH

To whom it may concern,
My name is Denise Boser
and I am a senior at St. Cloud
State University in Minnesota.

Dear Editor,

I am 12 years old and have been getting your magazine for about a year. You have a lot of interesting articles. I like the fact that much

**William Young,
Norcross, GA**

P.S. I bet this is negative so you won't print it, but I am a Simpsons fan.

-Lamour Torres
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada

There's no age limit on our readers, Lamour. The only requirements are that you like the Simpsons and have a sense of humor. So which of these is your dad's problem?

Greetings,
A friend gave me
a gift subscription
to your magazine;
keep up the good
work

I've been a

Conductor, the Bart Simpson Orchestra

2/24/99, 30-5-00



Row, row, row your boat,
Gently up the stream;
Tip Krabappel overboard,
And listen to her scream!

Andrea Waite,
Edmonton, AB, CANADA



Chuck Schulkins,
Toledo, OH



John Hayes,
Hamburg, IO

As a future elementary school teacher, I am concerned with what and the amount that children read. I like the fact that you have a magazine which interests children and promotes reading.

I am currently enrolled in a human relations course in which I am learning to recognize and analyze individual and institutional racism, sexism, and other forms of oppression. I am very interested in children's materials which are sensitive to these issues and show respect for all humans.

I purchased your magazine to see what children of today are reading. As I looked through it, I was disheartened by what I found. Contained in the winter 1992 issue was evidence of racism, sexism, and ageism. For me to pinpoint every negative image your

writers have created would be difficult because overall *The Simpsons* impact children in a negative way. Still, I feel the need to make you more aware of these problems.

Our country is in a period of age segregation. Children have very little contact with older people and, therefore, most of their ideas about them come from the media. They also live in a society where sexism is prevalent. Sadly, your cartoon on pages 26 and 27 only encourages the negative stereotypes of old women and mothers-in-law.

Included in your latest
issue on



Nicholas Pagano,
Hasbrouck Hts., NJ

pages 20-23 is an article about the writers of *The Simpsons*, all of whom are white males. The kind of image you are portraying to females and to people of color should be a

concern to you. It appears as if input from these oppressed groups are not very important to you. I personally feel that if these men are so creative, then they could certainly find better, more respectful ways to make children laugh.

In conclusion, my hope is that with your awareness you will begin to show more sensitivity to these social issues that are a problem in our society today. By reaching such a large audience, you have the chance to make a positive impact on children who are our investment for the future.

Sincerely,

Denise Boser
Sauk Rapids, MN

Guilty as charged.

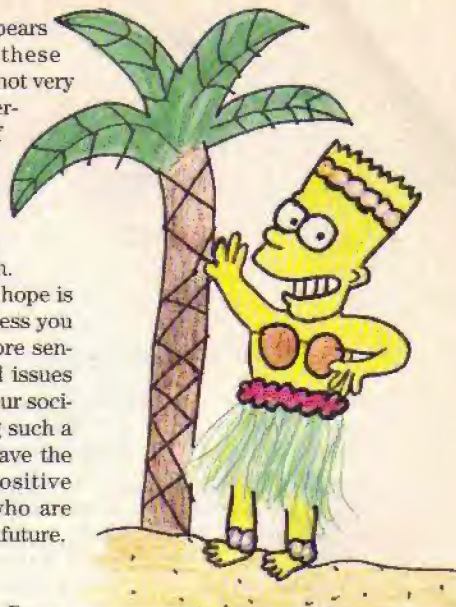
Dear *Simpsons Illustrated*,

I read *Simpsons Illustrated* Winter 1992, with Krusty the Clown on the cover. My favorite article was on pages 34-35, "Pullable Pranks." They were hilarious. I tried the one about "decorating a sleeping family member." My brother Jason was sleeping on the couch. I taped toilet paper on his butt and messed up his hair and sprayed it with hair spray. When he woke up he looked like Frankenstein. I told him, "Don't have a cow, man!" I got grounded for a day, but it was worth it.

I'd like to add a couple things to your "Pullable Pranks." Put pieces of chalk in the erasers. If you made a bad grade on a test, put someone else's name on it, and get the kid's A+ test and write your name on it. By the way, try putting Marge's hair on Moe's head.

P.S. I love your magazine.

—Justin Wandling
Scott Depot, WV



Carolyn Cotton,
Brookfield, WI

Dear Editor,

I finally got my parents to watch *Simpsons Illustrated*. That was a miracle—my dad is a preacher. They think it is funny except for the bad lan-



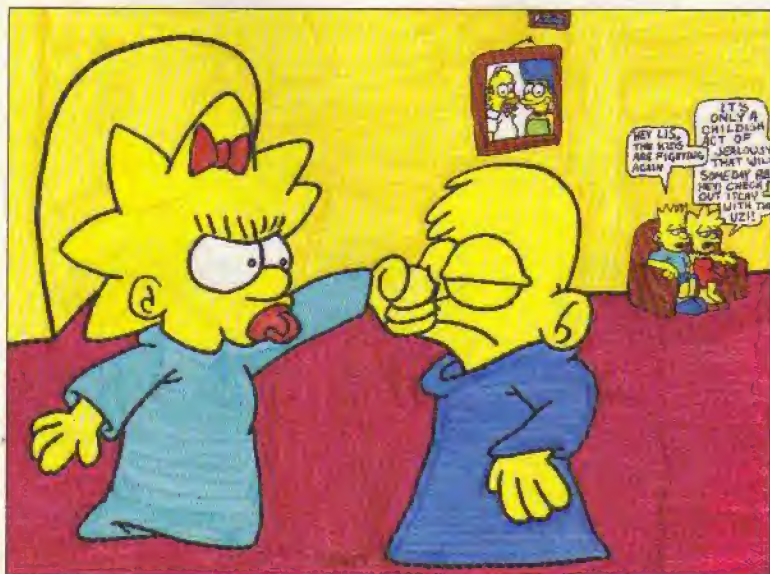
Reginald Shaw,
Paducah, KY

guage and the rudeness of Bart (my favorite character). But they like the morals of the shows. Some of the people who come to our church say this: "How do you let your kids watch that show; it is the rudest show ever, especially Bart!"

That's OK, because I still like them and always will.

Sincerely,

Renee Roraback
(Simpson crazy)
Jefferson, TX



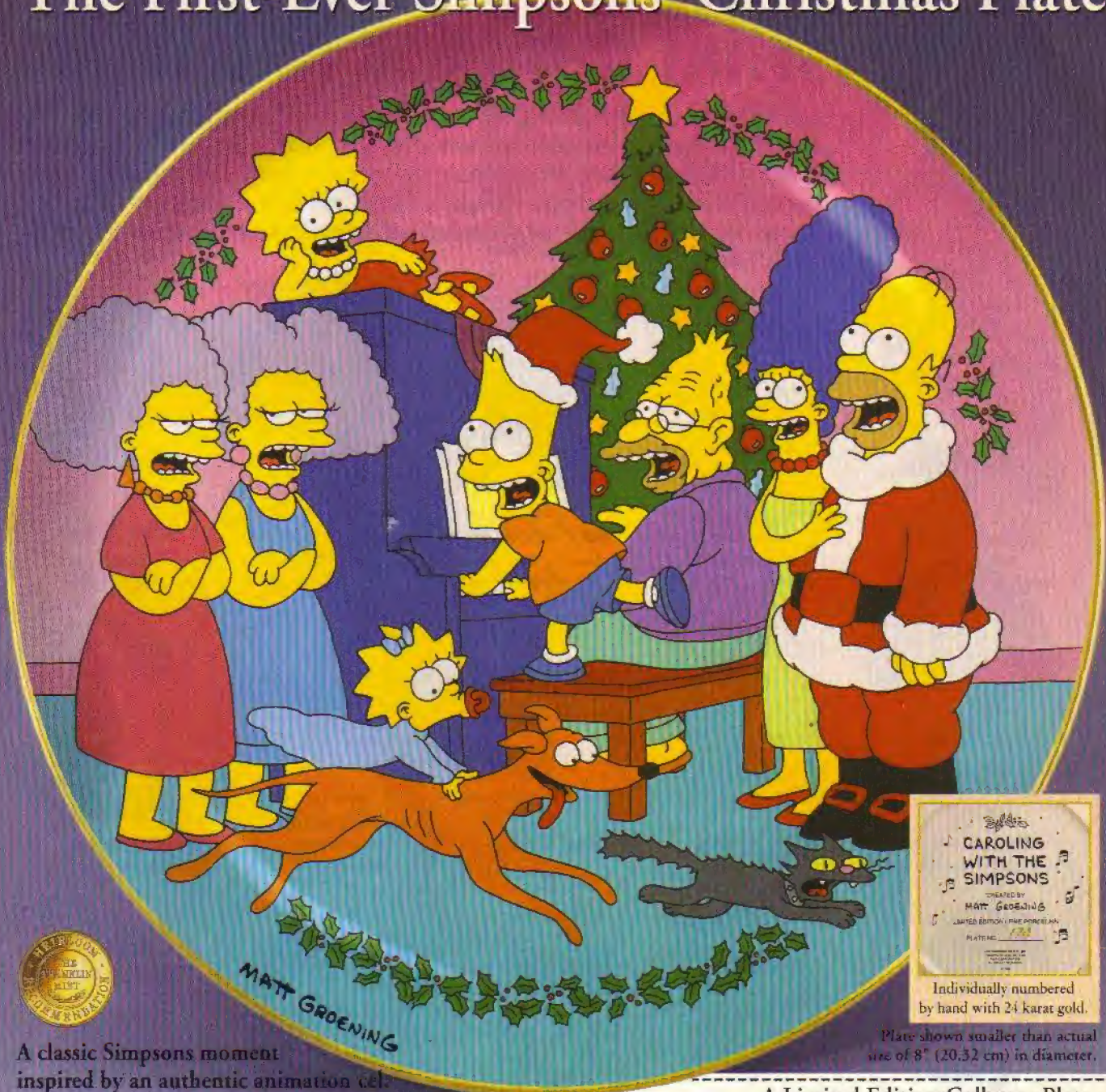
"What if Maggie Had a Little Brother?" Joesph Jensen, Albuquerque, NM

David Rodgers

[illegible]

FALL 1992

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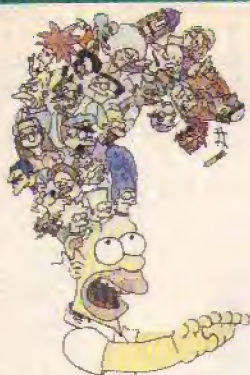
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WHAT IF HOMER HAD HAIR?



Marcus LaPorte
Corpus Christi, TX

Boy, did we ask a loaded question! We are still sorting through the mountains of mail we've received from you. Don't you people have work or school or something else to do? We'd never guess it. We could fill an entire issue with the amazing responses we've gotten. Your imaginations and abilities astound us. Here are just a few examples of the wild, wild world of hairdos we've been poring over this month. Thank you all, and please don't feel bad if your picture isn't in here... we probably just haven't opened it yet!



Bobby Hirn,
Huntington Beach, CA



Monica Wiondin,
Swartz Creek, MI



Jeremy Grigahinas,
Wadsworth, OH



Marc Tremblay,
Lowell, MA



April Myers,
Concord, CA



Alfredo Quezada,
Chula Vista, CA



Anthony Cupp,
Tacewell, TN



Matt Nelson,
Carmi, IL



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John Wiese,
Ballwin MO



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Birmingham, AL



Denise Kupferschmidt,
Holland, PA



Brian Gillette,
Thorton, PA



Donna Nelson,
West Valley City, UT



Rusty J. Genzel,
Whitewright, TX



Daryl Bowler,
Diamond Bar, CA



David Loughmiller,
Roswell, NM



Amos Testa,
Seattle, WA



Ravi Chugh,
North Brunswick, NJ



"The First Homer"
Tom Resch,
Americus, KS



Tom Smok,
Columbia, MD



"Little Bo Homer"
Sharon Fleischer,
Brooklyn, NY



Rebecca Fetter,
Rockford, IL



"Hollywood Homer"
Sarah Rosenberg,
San Antonio, TX



Angie Adams,
Richmond Hill, GA



"Blackbeard Homer"
Steven D. Schwartz,
Palmer, AK



Alissa M. Camie,
Frontenac, MO



Json Nakagawa,
Mililani, HI



Jonathan Rebus,
Edmonton, CANADA



Jonette Mathias,
Waipahu, HI



Eric Clark,
Swartz Creek, MI



Michael J. Turner,
Carlsbad, CA



Jordan Wallick,
Huntington Beach, CA



Alexandra Bartosik,
Mississauga, Ont. CANADA



Gaël Pirlot,
Columbus, GA



Mark Manalili,
Hayward, CA



Dedeia Ruiz,
Altus, OK



Suzanne Badieozzaman,
Huntington Beach, CA



James A. Black II,
Weaverville, NC

justinman@archive.org



"Homer Ramone"
Tim Williams,
Blind River, Ont., CANADA



Waylon Gary,
Fort Wayne, IN



Bradley Mayse,
Martin, TN



"Homer of Green Gables"
Jayne Akin,
Fredericton, New Brunswick



Melissa Gum,
Palmer, AK

50's HOMER



Jim Grachowski,
Elmwood Park, IL



Johnathan Nelson,
Las Vegas, NV



John A. Sage,
Primghar, IA



Richelle Tague,
San Diego, CA



Alanna Kramerson,
East Greenbush, NY



Allen J. Gamboa,
Casa Grande, AZ



Sarah Crowhurst,
Stevensville, Ont., CANADA



Jane Keskitalo,
Ypsilanti, MI



Devin Brown,
Denver, CO



Raina Ooten,
Sardinia, OH



"Homer Longsimspon"
Jennifer Brumagin,
Union City, PA



Kimberly Tuohy,
Ft. Lauderdale, FL



Sam Henzel,
Oak Park, IL



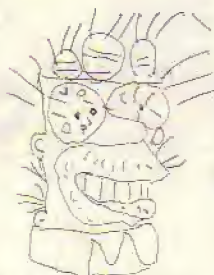
Danielle Tschappat,
Euclid, OH



Mike Wagner,
LeMars, IA



Nirit Schwarzenberg,
Irvine, CA



Katie Beasley,
Westminster, MD



Erin Bulea
Huron, OH



Frank Mericle,
East Stroudsburg, PA



Traci Kinell,
Fremont, CA



Heine Hinrichsen,
Salt Lake City, UT



Alan Taylor,
Salt Lake City, UT



Robert Kemp,
Salt Lake City, UT



C. HOMER BURNS

Erin Bulea,
Huron, OH



Becky Malkowski,
St. Charles, IL



"How Bart Sees Him"
Becky Hart,
Collbran, CO



Laura Patterson,
Eastlake, OH



Dustin Glick,
Queens, NY



Debra Jean Hopkins,
Vista, CA



Bryan Kwang,
Marina Del Rey, CA



Sandra Martinez,
Los Angeles, CA



Garrett Shikuma,
Walnut, CA



Elizabeth Ann Lester,
Middletown, PA



Paul S. Botch,
Carbondale, IL



Brooke Lifshin,
Greenwich, CT



Tammy Gygi,
Huntington, WV

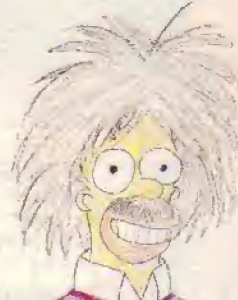


Homer
Ceasar

Hilary McOmber,
Palo Alto, CA



Mary K. Wharton,
Alexandria, VA



"Homer Einstein's Theory: $E=D'O'H^2$ "
Barbara Bzdzik,
Pittsburgh, PA



Matt Polidoro,
Springfield, PA



Betty Kao,
New York, NY



"Homer Chia Pet Simpson"
D'Agostino-Quattrociocchi,
Denver, CO



Erin Salts,
Wingate, IN



Kathleen Sheeran,
Palatine, IL

THE SIMPSONS IN TREAT OR TRICK











THE HEART OF BARTNESS

In the Joe Dante segment of Twilight Zone: The Movie, Nancy Cartwright played Ethel, a hapless teenager condemned to be eaten by a cartoon monster in TV-land. And then she met the Simpsons in 1987 and her life began to imitate art. At the time, Ohio-born Nancy Cartwright was on a fast-track to success, both on camera and off. Even before she graduated from UCLA in 1981, she had landed an agent and a starring role in a TV pilot and had developed the lead voice for the Hanna-Barbera animated series, Richie Rich. She was working regularly in films, TV movies, and a hit series when she was called in for The Simpsons audition. The casting director wanted her to read Lisa, but Cartwright found Bart more her style and...let's let her tell the story.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: I understand that you originally read for Lisa.

CARTWRIGHT: I never actually read for her. I was called in to read for her but I looked at it and couldn't get a hook on who she was. As I was waiting to go in, I picked up Bart's description and looked through the scene, and I said, "I want to do this!" I got him down pat. He's 10 years old, he's antagonistic, a troublemaker, an underachiever—I think I was attracted to him immediately. I went in and said, "Listen, I know you want me to read for Lisa, but I'd like to give a shot at this Bart. This guy looks interesting."

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: How did you hear about the part?

CARTWRIGHT: It wasn't any big deal. I had met the casting director a couple of months earlier. I was told it was a little segment on *The Tracey Ullman*

Nancy Cartwright makes the boy's noise.

By Jeff Spurrier

Show to introduce the commercials, and I thought it would be kind of fun. None of us thought *The Simpsons* would end up being all over the world and would sell 3.5 million records! **SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED:** Has Bart changed much since *Tracey Ullman* days?

CARTWRIGHT: Yeah. Then the Simpsons were one-dimensional characters. Bart and Lisa were constantly fighting, and they had no affinity as brother and sister. As the show developed, the characters became more fleshed out, like real people. That first season the changes happened so quickly. Lisa changed the most. Bart has been labeled as this underachiever, and I think the label is more of a comment on people who say "I don't want my students wearing T-shirts that say that." Bart is actually a very good kid underneath it all. He just has a penchant for being mischievous. And he gets away with it. I think the kids see him as a hero because of this. It's funny and Bart's having a good time, pulling pranks with total abandon and

glee. And at the end, either through him or Homer, there's a moral to the story—even though Bart may twist it around.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: Bart is never fully redeemed.

CARTWRIGHT: Right. Were he to be fully redeemed, we would not have a Bart Simpson.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: How much of Bart comes from you?

CARTWRIGHT: Well, Bart is Matt Groening's creation. When I went in for the audition, he was this antagonistic kid who had a sense of humor. Since then he's become this beautiful marriage of the writers and the artists. The actors will throw in ad libs and the writers encourage it because it helps them. The ad libs then go into the rewrites. We do a number of takes—seven, ten times for one scene—and then the animators get it. We do a table reading [a preliminary run-through of the first draft of a script] on Thursdays and if it's not working, nobody has to say anything. It's obvious. I keep my mouth shut. I go home and get the rewrite over the weekend. It's staggering the difference the rewrite makes.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: Will Bart's voice ever change?

CARTWRIGHT: I don't think so. And that's the reason for hiring a woman. If they had hired a real ten-year-old boy to do Bart, he'd be almost 14 now. And his voice would have changed.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: Are there any speech tricks to being Bart?

CARTWRIGHT: No, it's a placement thing in my throat. I don't really think about it. It's not in my head; it's not in my chest. (*Bart voice*) It's right back here. Sometimes when I get laryngitis, the

sound changes.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: Did you try various voices before you found the Bart voice?

CARTWRIGHT: At the audition I knew exactly the sound I wanted, and I did that. A lot of times I'll go on auditions and give them options, but for Bart—that was it. This is how I see him, and I don't want to lessen the impact by giving the auditioners another choice. It's real easy when I do a radio spot to just do another take and make a character different, make her a little older—instead of making her sound like she's 14, I'll make her sound 17. It's not just a voice change, it's a change in attitude. It's very stereotyped.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED:

Besides Bart, you also provide the voices for other characters on the show. How do you choose and remember a voice for a character?

CARTWRIGHT: I remember by naming the character. (*Bart voice*) This is my Bart voice. (*Todd voice*) This is my Todd Flanders voice. (*Nelson voice*) This is my Nelson Muntz voice. You become the kid by physically embodying him.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED:

And where is Bart among those three?

CARTWRIGHT: It's a different placement of the voice. I don't really get into analyzing how I do it.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: Has being a mother changed your ideas of who Bart is?

CARTWRIGHT: My husband and I have a little different idea of how to raise our kids than Marge and Homer do. Marge is a good mom—she talks to her kids. I wonder why she loves Homer so much, but then they flash back and show how they got together or he does something so sweet, and I totally buy it. Marge listens to her kids and tells Homer what's right and wrong, but I don't feel they have any policy on how to operate. I feel they take it one episode, one incident at a time.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: What tips do you have for someone interested in a

voice-over career?

CARTWRIGHT: First, it takes more than just one voice. Versatility is the name of the game. I would also study acting because it is acting. You have to be able to do everything. You just don't see me move behind the mike. Who's the scene with? A scene with Bart and Marge is certainly different from one with Bart and Homer or Bart and Lisa. You have to be able to communicate—not movement but character development. Study any-

thing you can to improve yourself as an entertainer—singing or whatever. Also take a workshop, go to a seminar, study with somebody. Is this really something you want to do, or is this just because people tell you you have an interesting sound? It's very competitive.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: Do you have a favorite episode?

CARTWRIGHT: I really like the Thanksgiving episode when Bart runs away and becomes a vagrant. And I like the one when it's Lisa's birthday

and Bart sings "Happy birthday, Lisa." And I like the one when Bart gets an F. That was the first show of last year. He flunks and has to take another test to determine if he's going to redo the fourth grade. He flunks but pulls out this obscure reference, and he passes with a D minus. I like to use that episode when I speak to high school kids.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: Has the voice-over training been a big factor in your acting?

CARTWRIGHT: On my very first interview, the people that auditioned me had me cold read from a script. Because of my training, I

had no problem taking a scene and putting some life in it. And the next thing I knew, I was reading for all these ABC executives. I had the ability to look at words on paper, and outside of the acting where you have to get up, move around, and physically become the character, I could make a character just by imagining it. When I do a cold reading, I don't move around much because I'm very attached to the script. The character just evolves. If you came to one of *The Simpsons* recording sessions, you'd see. Julie Kavner will hold herself a certain way as Marge, and I'll stand and move my hands a certain way as Bart. If I'm playing an old character, physically I embody who that character is. It's not just the voice. You have to fill it out with the acting behind it.



“There’s a moral to the story—even though Bart may twist it around.”

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: So the voice-over work was what brought you seriously into acting?

CARTWRIGHT: Yeah. I kind of dabbled with acting. I got a great reaction when I was a kid, and I knew I wanted to be

I got though advertising on television. But Julia Robertses are few and far between. The superstars who actually make it, the role they have to play, is so difficult. They've got a ticking clock. Liz Taylor was just on the set yesterday, playing a voice for us. She's a legend and just sweeps into a room. She had this big ring on her hand, 33.3 karats, and I said, *(Bart voice)* "What a rock, man!" It really cracked her up. But she's had people checking her out her entire life, invalidating her, talking about how she looks.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED:

And people don't do that to you. Do you wish they did?

CARTWRIGHT: It's not that I'm seeking fame or even recognition. I just want to expand as an artist and do more work. There's a nice anonymity being the voice behind Bart. I can go to events like the American Music Awards or the Oscars with all kinds of media there taking pictures, and nobody knows me. But to be honest, I would love to be on a hit show with my face on the camera. I would love to do feature film work.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: How much time do you spend being Bart?

CARTWRIGHT: Some days, there's a lot of freedom. But then yesterday, I left at nine and got home at eight. If I'm in every scene, I stand up in front of the mike all day with an hour off for lunch and maybe three minutes off between reel changes. It's a real intense day. But for me, it's a pretty ideal scene, especially the past three years when I've had two kids. I could continue to work and show up for the job right up until "Hey, my water broke!"

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: What was the worst thing kids said about you in

high school?

CARTWRIGHT: I could tell you the most embarrassing. When I was a senior, they had this annual Christmas choir program, and they always sang this one song every year called "The Monotone Angel." I talked to the director and told him I really wanted to be the Monotone Angel. I said I could rig up a parachute harness with cables and then when my cue came, I'd swing out and actually fly as the Monotone Angel! He said OK, as long as I did it on my own time. I had to fly over a pretty big area and so I had to climb up a 15-foot ladder to get over their heads. They were singing my cue "Once there was a Monotone Angel. Sitting on a cloud she practiced trying to make her voice go higher..." And I went "Gloriaaaaa!" I swung out, the cables broke, and I missed the stage risers by about an inch. I smacked my head on the floor, my halo was all bent, I got a black eye, and the choir director is saying, "Keep singing! Keep singing!" That's how they remember me—not because I did so well on the speech team; it was "Oh yeah. You're the one who fell on stage and almost killed everybody."

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: When you speak at high schools, would you speak in Bart's voice?

CARTWRIGHT: Oh, yeah. I have to. I throw a little phrase in every once in a while. *(Bart voice)* "I'm Bart Simpson, who the hell are you?" But legally, I can't go out and be solely Bart Simpson. I don't own him. Fox owns him. I do the voice, and they own him.

SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED: Tell me about where "Eat My Shorts" came from.

CARTWRIGHT: I was in a brass band in high school. I played the French Horn. We were marching from the high school to the football stadium, about six blocks away, marching to this drum cadence: "Duh duh-duh duh duhhh, Fairmont West!" And we'd say, "Duh duh-duh duh duhhh, Eat My Shorts!" Because nobody knew. When you've got 200 people chanting you have absolutely no idea what they're saying. And I just threw it out at a table reading one day, and I got a great reaction. The next thing I know, it's in the script, and now it's on T-shirts. A major contribution!



"I'll stand and move my hands a certain way as Bart. It's not just the voice."

an entertainer. But when people asked me, "Are you going to be an actress?" the first thing I thought was, "Oh gosh! And suffer?! Struggle?!" I had this fixed idea that you had to be pretty to be an actress. It was a glamorized idea

SIMPSONS
ILLUSTRATED
ELECTION SPECIAL!

VOTE



EL BARTO'S SEVEN WARNING SIGNS OF BOGUS POLITICIANS

1. Takes up valuable TV time when more professional wrestling could be shown.
2. Looks scary when mad; looks even scarier when happy.
3. Can't spell any better than you can.
4. Attacks cartoon characters instead of confronting real issues.
5. Was obviously the class snitch in grade school.
6. When approval ratings plunge, starts a war.
7. Picks a running mate that makes candidate look smart by comparison.

BART FOR PRESIDENT



THE ONLY CANDIDATE WHO'S PROUD OF BEING AN UNDERACHIEVER

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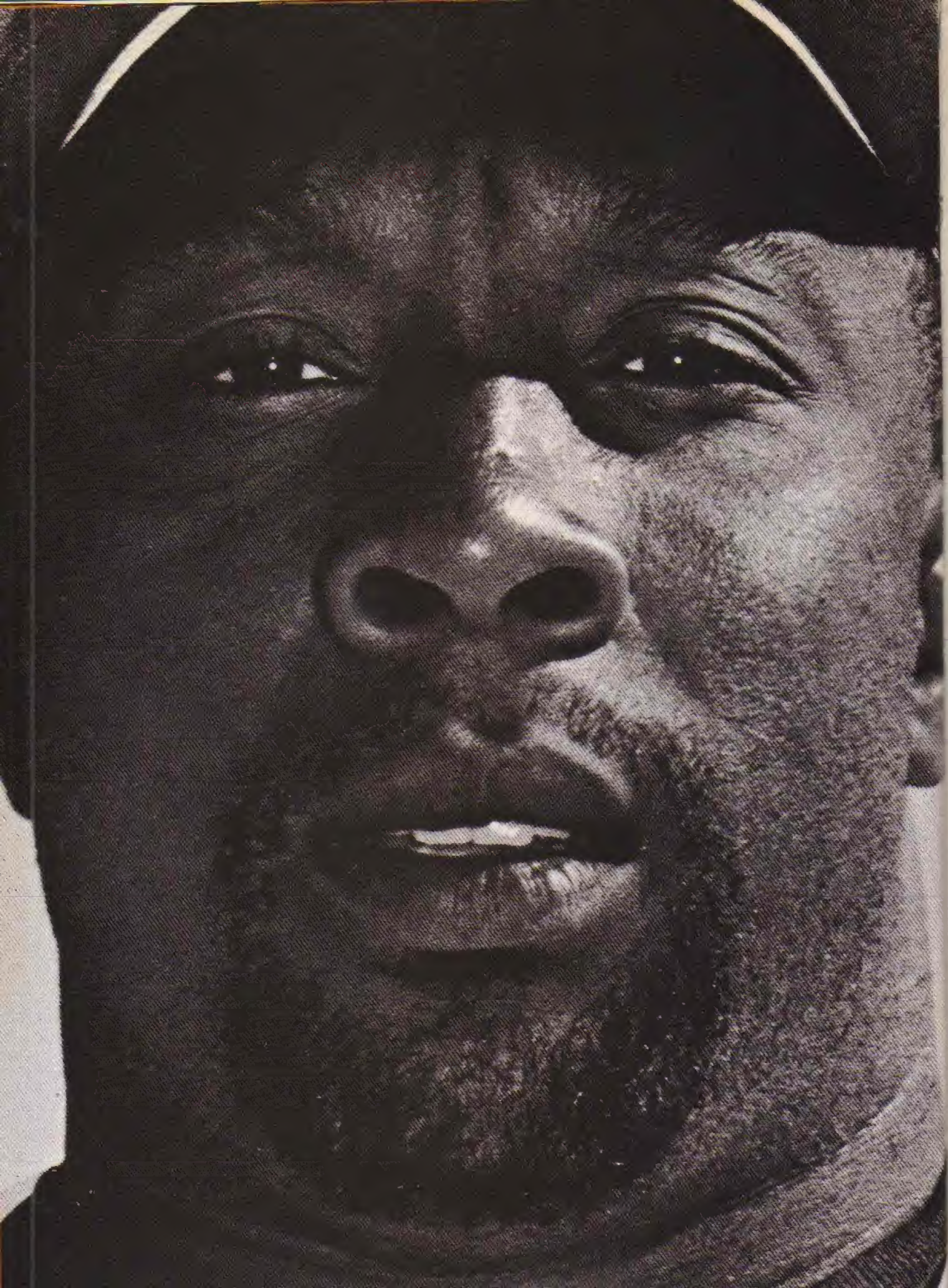
DON'T BLAME ME... I VOTED FOR BART!

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VOTE
BART!
THE REAL
OUTSIDER
CANDIDATE

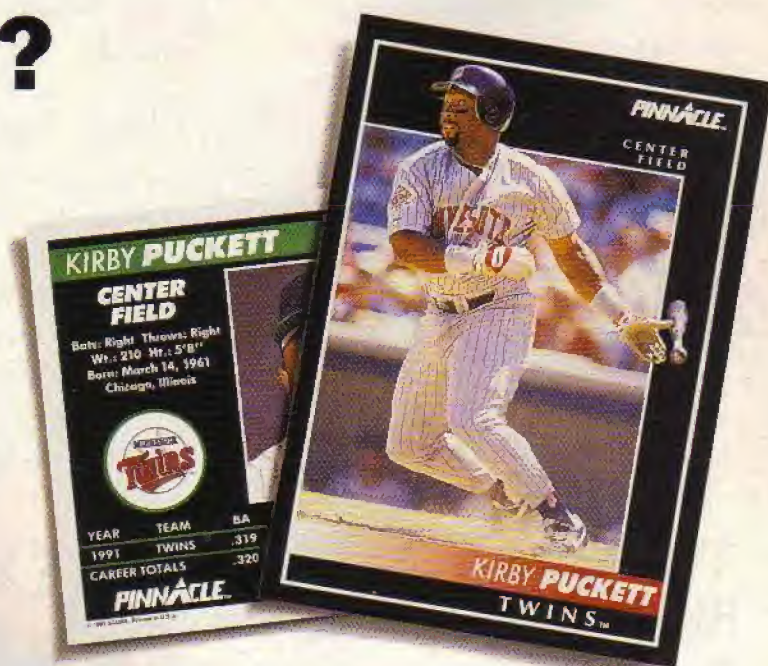
A VOTE FOR
BART
IS A VOTE FOR
ANARCHY!

HAVING TROUBLE MUSTERING ENTHUSIASM FOR THIS YEAR'S PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES? ARE THE SO-CALLED "CHOICES" CRAMPING YOUR STYLE YET AGAIN? WELL, MOPE NO MORE! *SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED* HAS COME TO YOUR RESCUE WITH THIS SPECIAL ELECTION SUPPLEMENT. IF FICTIONAL TV CHARACTERS HAVE BECOME REAL CAMPAIGN ISSUES, THEN A FICTIONAL TV CHARACTER CAN HAVE A REAL CAMPAIGN. HERE IS YOUR OWN DO-IT-YOURSELF CAMPAIGN KIT FOR THE ONE CANDIDATE YOU CAN REALLY BELIEVE IN. ONE BUMPER STICKER IS FOR IMMEDIATE USE; THE OTHER IS FOR AFTER THE ELECTION AND THE INEVITABLE DEFEAT OF THE BEST MAN. DISPLAY 'EM WITH PRIDE!



KIRBY PUCKETT

THINKS PINNACLE IS
THE MOST SERIOUS CARD
ON THE MARKET TODAY.
WHO ARE WE TO ARGUE
WITH HIM?



©1992 Score Group Inc.

If Kirby Puckett thinks Pinnacle is the ultimate baseball card, you can imagine what serious collectors think. Especially when they see subsets like Idols and Sidelines featured in the new Pinnacle collection. So why should serious collectors take Kirby Puckett's word on all this stuff? Hey, have you seen his batting average lately?



SERIOUS CARDS FOR A SERIOUS GAME.

Bart and Lisa's SRENY SCIENCE



TO AMAZE, CONFUSE
and ANNOY YOUR FRIENDS,
"NATURALLY"

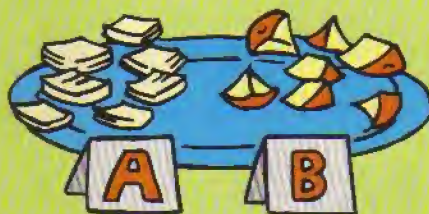
I DIDN'T DO IT!
PHYSICS DID!

PRACTICE
MAKES PERFECT!



SUN TATTOOS

Create a tattoo, necklace, ankle bracelet, etc. using creatively (and carefully) applied sunblock. Then go out in the sun to get a light tan. Voila! It won't wash off, either.



Baffling Taste Test

Give your friends a taste test by blindfolding them. Have them hold their nose. Give them a piece of apple and a piece of onion (not a strong one). See if they can tell the difference. Surprise! Experiment with different foods.

THE SPIRIT

Stand in a doorway. Press the back of your hands on the sides of the door as hard as you can for about a minute. Then walk out a bit, relax your arms, and feel the spirit lift your arms up effortlessly.

The Big Spin

Spin around in a circle 'til you're dizzy. Stop. Is everything still moving?

THE GRAVITY-DEFYING HUMAN CENTIPEDE

Get a bunch of kids together. Stand in a tight circle, then have everyone face left and sit down at the same time. If each person sits on the knees of the person behind them, nobody will fall. (Oh yeah, when you're done, everyone should get up at the same time.) If everyone shuffles their feet, the group will rotate like a circular centipede. Ten thousand people did this once.



DO AS I SAY!

Impress your friends while having a snack. Plunk a few raisins in some ginger ale or seltzer. In a masterful voice, smoothly command the raisins to rise and fall. Carried by the bubbles, they will appear to be under your control.

Try it and see.



THE COIN CHALLENGE

Challenge your friends to move a column of coins just by touching the top coin. Use a smooth table. The trick is to press down very hard on the nearest edge of the top coin. Then the whole column moves.



I AM A CAMERA

(and a slide projector)

☆ Stare at a black-and-white picture for about 3 minutes straight. Close your eyes. Open them and stare at a white wall. You will "see" the image again.

☆ Stare at a large patch of color for 2 minutes. Then stare at a white wall and you will "see" the complementary color of the original color patch.



Melt The Ice

Use a magnifying glass to focus the rays of the sun on a friend's popsicle and watch it melt before your eyes. Then scam!

SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER

Are you ready to dance that thing around? Okay. Call your friends over. Switch on a mini-flashlight and tape it in the center of your stereo turntable.

Place a kitchen collander over the turntable. Secure with tape. Turn on the radio and turntable. Turn off the room lights and get into the groove with your own disco inferno.

Lose Weight Real Quick

We've heard the promises before, but try this. Stand on your bathroom scale with both hands above your head. Notice your weight. Now bring your hands down and bend your knees. Look at the scale now, skinny.



CHARGE YOURSELF UP!!! WITH STATIC ELECTRICITY

Wait for a dry day (low humidity).
Wear rubber soles for maximum effect.

Shuffle, saunter, drag, or moonwalk across a rug toward your "target" person. Touch them to set off the dreaded spark 'n' shock.

You can also "stick" playing cards or an entire piece of newspaper to the wall. Just rub them down while shuffling your feet.

Make a "magic wand" out of a stick of plastic (a fly swatter end will work). Rub it with a cloth to charge it, and you can "electrify" tiny objects such as sugar, salt, little bits of paper. Recharge with the cloth.

Rub a balloon against a woolen sleeve.
Stick the balloon anywhere.

Brush your hair. Hold a balloon above your head, and it will pull up your hair. Frightening!



CHAPTER 4

BACK ON THE CHAIN GANG

COPING WITH THE START OF YET ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR

IDENTIFY YOUR TEACHER

EARLY CLASSIFICATION OF YOUR ADVERSARY IS VITAL IN DETERMINING YOUR STRATEGY FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR



THE SOFTY

LOOK FOR: Use of smiley-face stickers.
PROS: Lets you get away with a lot.
CONS: Will draw the line eventually.
ADVICE: Beware of major backlash if pushed too far.



THE WANNABE HIPSTER

LOOK FOR: Milli Vanilli T-shirt.
PROS: Watches MTV.
CONS: Thinks watching MTV makes him really cool.
ADVICE: Wait until his back is turned to laugh at him.



THE LAME DUCK

LOOK FOR: Weary, resigned facade; merciless heart.
PROS: With only two years until retirement, he's thrown in the towel.
CONS: Has heard it all before.
ADVICE: Warning: true nature revealed at grade time.



THE DOMINATRIX

LOOK FOR: Pent-up fury.
PROS: None.
CONS: Too many to list.
ADVICE: Transfer!

IDENTIFY YOUR CLASSMATES

UNDERSTAND THE CLASSROOM POWER STRUCTURE AND MAKE IT WORK FOR YOU



THE BULLY

LOOK FOR: Bruised knuckles.
PROS: Draws teacher's fire away from you.
CONS: May pay you back later.
ADVICE: Don't let him catch you alone; travel in packs.



THE EGGHEAD

LOOK FOR: Self-satisfied smirk.
PROS: Knows all the answers.
CONS: Probably won't tell them to you.
ADVICE: Maintain good relations, especially near exam time.



THE TATTLETALE

LOOK FOR: Shifty eyes, nervous twitch.
PROS: Can be deployed to your advantage.
CONS: No loyalty whatsoever.
ADVICE: Sit as far away from her as possible.



THE CRYBABY

LOOK FOR: Tries to be invisible.
PROS: Easy target.
CONS: Can turn into 'The Tattletale' without warning.
ADVICE: Make sure there are no witnesses.

KEEP UP MORALE WITH THIS SIMPSONS ILLUSTRATED COUNTDOWN CALENDAR! CHECK OFF THE DAYS UNTIL NEXT SUMMER VACATION.

KEEP UP MORALE WITH THE SIMPSON'S ILLUSTRATED COUNTDOWN CALENDAR CHECK OFF THE DAYS SINCE NEW YEAR'S																																																	
180	179	178	177	176	175	174	173	172	171	170	169	168	167	166	165	164	163	162	161	160	159	158	157	156	155	154	153	152	151	150	149	148	147	146	145	144	143	142	141	140	139	138	137	136					
135	134	133	132	131	130	129	128	127	126	125	124	123	122	121	120	119	118	117	116	115	114	113	112	111	110	109	108	107	106	105	104	103	102	101	100	99	98	97	96	95	94	93	92	91	90				
89	88	87	86	85	84	83	82	81	80	79	78	77	76	75	74	73	72	71	70	69	68	67	66	65	64	63	62	61	60	59	58	57	56	55	54	53	52	51	50	49	48	47	46						
45	44	43	42	41	40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1					



THE SCHOOL BUS

YOU ARE WHERE YOU SIT, SO FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES TO ENHANCE YOUR COMMUTE

REBELS WITHOUT A CAR

Back here you can horse around with impunity or just relax in a pulsating massage of potholes and speed bumps.

THE INDIFFERENTS

These kids really don't care where they sit. Which is why they always end up sitting in the same exact spot.

THE NAUSEOUS KID

Stay clear.

SMUG SAFETY PATROLLERS

They sit at the front so no one can avoid their contemptuous gaze.

THE BUS DRIVER

You can't sit here.

THE AUDIENCE

For people who enjoy the spectacle coming from the back of the bus but don't want the stigma of actually sitting back there.



INVALUABLE FASHION TIP

Never, ever, let your mom go shopping for clothes without your direct supervision. By avoiding responsibility now, you're only setting yourself up for ridicule later.



If all else fails and your mom forces you to go to school looking like a geek, wear a T-shirt featuring the authority-baiting icon of your choice under your mom-approved outfit. Once you get to school, stash the geek clothes in your locker. (Hint: Remember to change back before you go home.)

DEALING WITH THE INEVITABLE "HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER VACATION" REPORT

Assigning summer vacation stories is an easy out for teachers who haven't gotten their act together by the first days of school. Let's face it: They really don't care what you did then, they're just trying to figure out what to do with you now. So spice up their life if they're paying attention, and entertain the class if they're not. These stories usually come down to a case of one-up-manship anyway, so go for broke. Make up something cool. For example, other students probably visited their grandmothers over the summer, but did they visit her... in prison!? Sure, a few people went to camp. But did they go... with Elvis' Martian clone!? Take your everyday stories and elaborate. Your classmates will thank you.

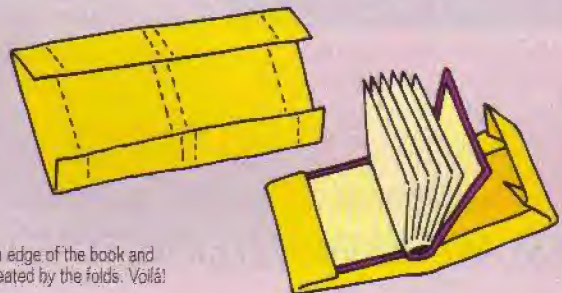
THE GREAT COVER-UP!

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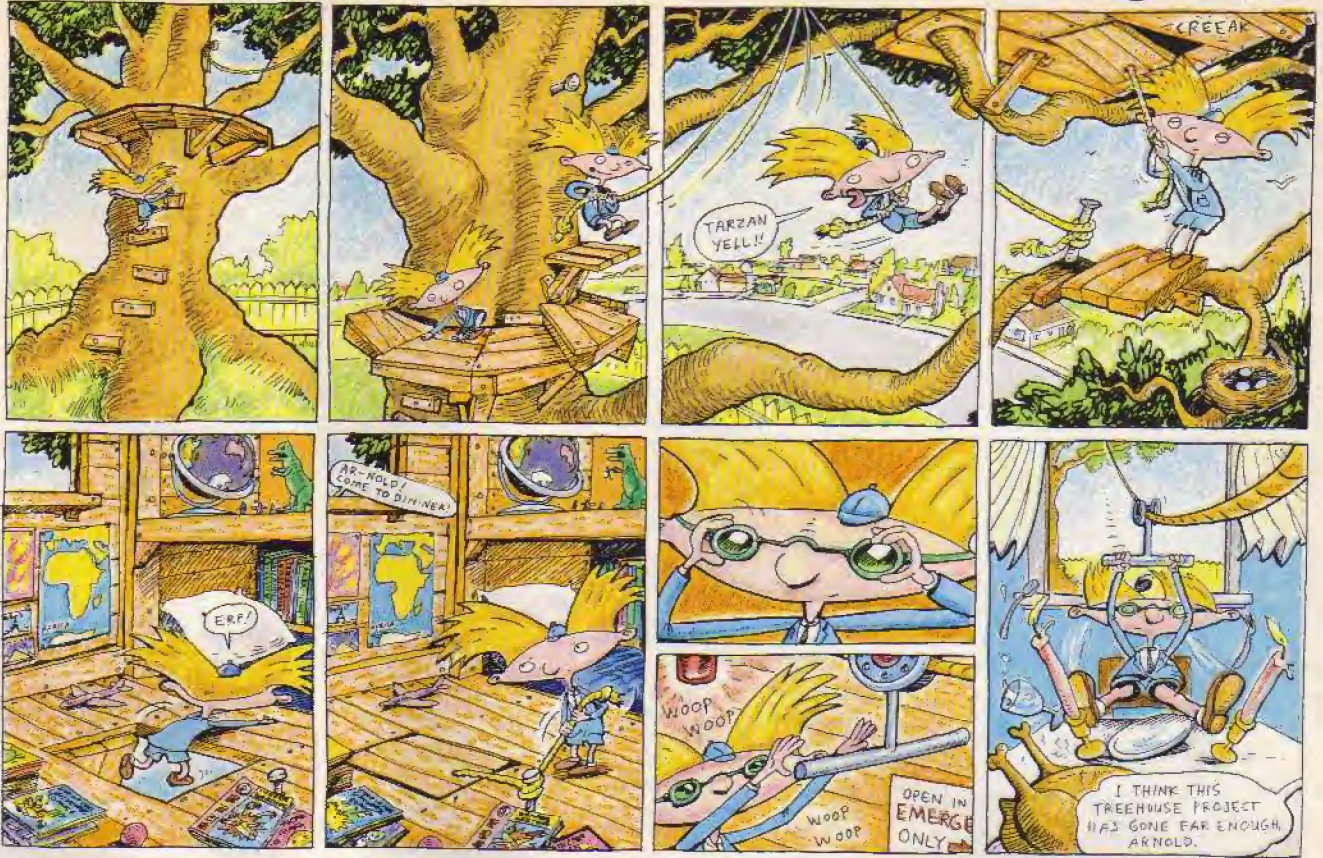
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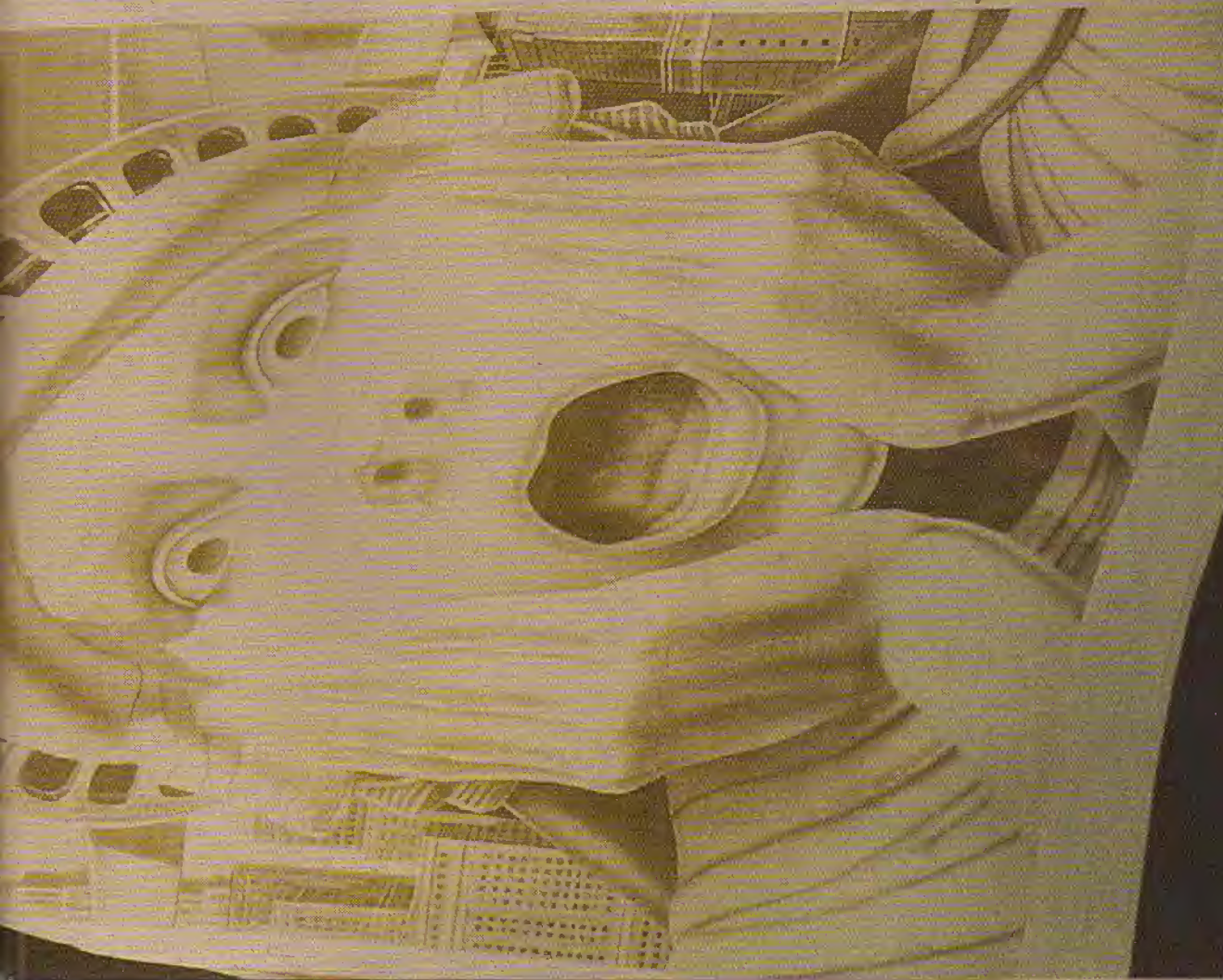
WILLIAM & PERCY

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THANKSGIVING EVERYWHERE

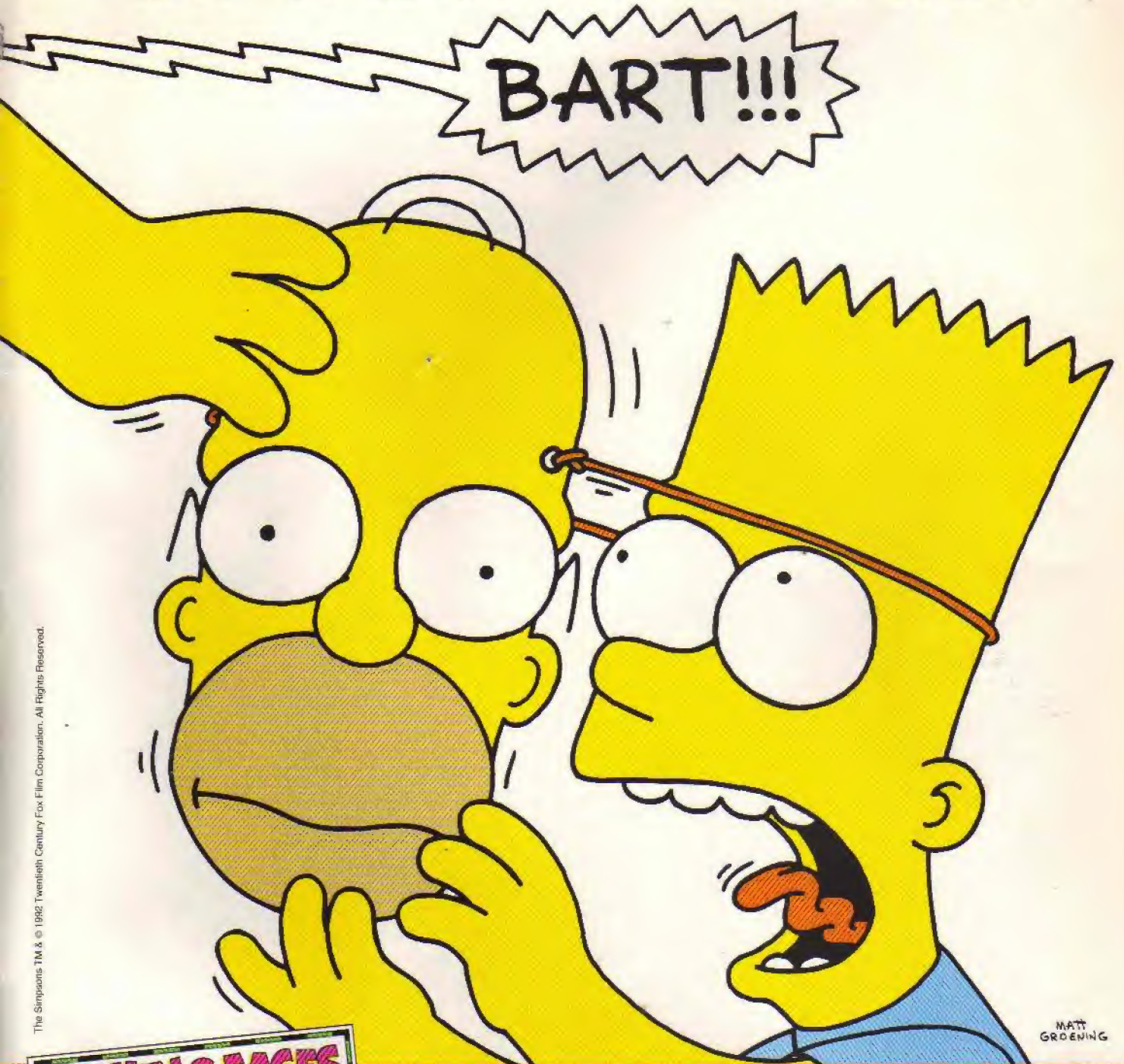
Principal Skinner's Bottom 40

40. The first day of yet another school year
39. Wretched, ungrateful students who fail to appreciate the priceless gift we educators are trying to bestow upon them
38. Hooliganism
37. Having to actually eat in the cafeteria occasionally, to keep up appearances
36. Students who don't clean their plates
35. Recurrent screaming nightmares that I am a grade-school principal
34. The way Groundskeeper Willie always fertilizes whichever section of the school grounds is upwind from my office window
33. "Talent" Night
32. The way the sound of a cherry-bombed toilet sets off my Vietnam flashbacks
31. Food fights
30. The smell of the teachers' lounge
29. When a trusted hall monitor goes bad
28. Whoever is drinking out of the flask I keep in my bottom drawer
27. Unflattering caricatures of me spraypainted on school walls
26. Namby-pamby school board members who won't allow kids to be spanked like in the good old days
25. The ongoing failure of the Springfield School Board to name me "Principal of the Year"
24. Teachers who lack the gumption to flunk their entire class
23. Water balloons
22. Comic books
21. Slingshots
20. Stink bombs
19. Mayhem
18. Kids who won't snitch on their friends
17. The embarrassment of yet another O-14 season for our Junior Pumas soccer team
16. Having to change my unlisted home phone number 21 times in the last year—and still they call
15. Whoever started the vicious rumor that I wear a toupee
14. Disorder
13. Whoever keeps writing "I AM A WIENER" in the dirt on my car's back window
12. Parent-teacher meetings
11. Faculty meetings
10. Uppity teachers who think they are more important to this institution than I am
9. The fact that the kids have learned my childhood nickname "Spanky"
8. Seeing former students go on to achieve great success in the outside world—fortunately, very few of them have
7. Boom boxes
6. T-shirts with slogans that encourage disrespect for authority
5. Snotty little punks who laugh at me behind my back
4. Knowing I have to endure another 17 years of this living hell before I can take early retirement
3. Underachievers who are proud of it
2. Bart Simpson
1. El Barto—whatever you are, I vow that someday I will make you pay!

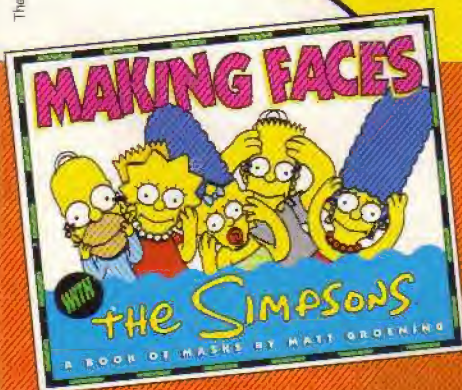


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